

The Men and Families Center proposes to reach out to the surrounding community residents by, incorporating an environmental awareness program that coincides with environmental education materials, and community events. Our proposal is to increase participation in environmentally friendly methods to achieve a reduction in the landfill cost to the city of Baltimore and provide a new venue for the decreased rodent harm by reducing the environmental impact on health of citizen and communities and show the benefits of recycling in Baltimore City.

History of the Collaboration: The Men and Families Center, Inc. (Formally the Men's Center) was established following an extensive community needs assessment conducted in East Baltimore in 1995 by the Baltimore Family League and the Historic East Baltimore Community Action Coalition (HEBCAC). This assessment revealed wide gaps in services available to low-income East Baltimore families and children. Of particular concern to the partners involved was the lack of comprehensive services geared towards men and fathers. The Men's Center was established to serve as a coordinating place for East Baltimore men and families to find solutions to these difficult problems. Services have spanned from parenting skills to preventive health and many other areas in the organization's seventeen year history working to improve the well-being of low-income East Baltimore.

For more than a decade, numerous community-based initiatives at Johns Hopkins have found a home and partner in the M&FC. Beyond its strong track-record in service provision, the center has often served as a site for coordinating projects aimed at improving health and well-being and promoting environmental justice. Such projects have involved rich and extended collaboration between M&FC staff and students, physicians, staff, and faculty at schools spanning the Johns Hopkins University, including the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, and Public Health, as well as the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences. The Men and Families Center has fostered a broad range of collaborations for more than a decade, each making a deeply local contribution to urban health.

The Men and Families Center will use funds being requested to hire a program assistant to provide block by block contact with residents distributing literature, surveys, setting a stage for community environmental education and providing information about the program process both start-up and results.

This person will be responsible for collecting surveys, compiling and along with the program director tabulate and produce results in a distributable document. The responsibilities will also include getting signed permission sheets for distribution of rodent control packets and recycling containers. At the end of each month make contact with a block of residents to assess how the impact of the distribution have on their knowledge of the environmental impact of the program as well as the signs of reduced rodent control.

The recycling part of this program will be measure by the distribution and follow-up survey on resident realizing the amount of recyclables that have been diverted from the land fill by each household.

1. By the end of the year M&FC will distribute 100 recycling containers.
2. By the end of the year the M&FC will have held 5 sessions at the center for community residents informing and educating them about the environment, recycling and best practices on rodent control.
3. By the end of the year M&FC will provide in-kind services of staff, space and support for program staff consultation.
4. By the end of the year the M&FC will meet with three neighborhood associations.
5. By the end of the year the M&FC will develop and distribute 200 surveys, collecting a before and after knowledge assessment.
6. By the end of the year the M&FC will provide 75 households rodent control information and packets for implementing control for “rat rub out.”
7. By the end of the year M&FC will increase the amount f resident recycling by 50%.
8. By the end of the M&FC will demonstrate through follow-up surveys that households have actively reduced the amount of rodents observed, measured by reports on disposal of killed rodents.
9. By the end of the year M&FC will have purchased no less than 100 recycling containers.
10. By the end of the year M&FC will have talked with 75 residents and distributed rodent abatement packets.

Program: Men and Families Center East Baltimore Community Environmental Awareness and Recycling Program Logic Model

Situation: Increase in recyclables are being sent to landfill need to be diverted for recycling and the increased amounts of rodents in East Baltimore need to be addressed

Inputs	Outputs		Outcomes -- Impact		
	Activities	Participation	Short	Medium	Long
M&FC staff M&FC space M&FC equipment M&FC Program Assistant	Hire program assistant Provide meeting space for educational sessions Provide computer access, internet use, fax machine use, and space for one-on-one consultation, telephone use Make contact with community residents distribute and collect surveys, purchase and distribute recycling materials and rodent control packets	Create program specifics for implementation and carryout plan 100 residents will attend educational sessions Survey development Publication, meeting agendas, contacting resident for follow-up Block by block recruitment, distribute and collect completed forms, conduct trainings and education sessions, provide resource to participants	Hire and train assistant on program objectives create work plan and evaluate Program assistant Schedule meeting dates, generate 100+ contacts of residents develop and distribute program information distribute 100 pre-program surveys, 100 information sheets, make a schedule of information sessions, collect surveys tabulate first 6 months of surveys	Effective implementation of core objectives Organize a group of 25 residents to focus on program implementation task Make available 200 information sheets and surveys Redistribute surveys for post program knowledge assessment, conduct 5 information sessions	Reduce landfill amount by recycling, demonstrate a reduction in rodent population Design and implement a community resident program with intent on educating about the environment and ways for reduction in rodent population and recycling diversion Report development of program outcomes, put in place mechanism for sustainability of rodent control and recycling expansion,

Assumptions: All residents want to get rid of rodents; All residents want to recycle and every resident cares about environmental concerns

External Factors: Baltimore City trash collection; "rat rub out" program effectiveness and awareness

